EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

REMARKS

A final Office Action was mailed on January 11, 2008. Claims 1 and 3 – 10 are pending; and that claims 1 and 3 – 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 5, 6, and 8 – 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kandogan et al ("Kandogan", Elastic Windows) in view of Kuromusha et al ("Kuromusha", US 7028265 B2).

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kandogan et al ("Kandogan", Elastic Windows) and Kuromusha et al ("Kuromusha", US 7028265 B2) as applied to Claim 1 above, and in further view of Zenith (7036083 B1).

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kandogan et al ("Kandogan", Elastic Windows) and Kuromusha et al ("Kuromusha", US 7028265 B2) as applied to Claim 1 above, and in further view of Ellison-Taylor (5796402).

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kandogan et al ("Kandogan", Elastic Windows) and Kuromusha et al ("Kuromusha", US 7028265 B2) as applied to Claim 1 above, and in further view of Southgate (5561757).

Response to Arguments

Applicants submit that for at least the following reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Kandogan and Kuromusha, alone or in combination.

Applicants' claim 1 recites:

> *"A method of rearranging **non-overlapping** views on a computer screen, the method comprising the steps of:*

the computer receiving a rearrangement request from a user to ***collectively*** *rearrange views on the computer screen relative to an original arrangement of views,*

the computer determining one or more ***possible alternative arrangements of views*** *in response to the rearrangement request and selecting one possible alternative arrangement for display,*

the computer displaying the selected alternative arrangement on the screen with all views retaining their original dimensions from the original arrangement of views, and

with each successive rearrangement request, the computer selecting for display one of another possible alternative arrangement of views or the original arrangement of views."

In the January 8, 2008 Office Action, page 3, it is conceded by the Office that Kandogan does not explicitly disclose that the computer is determining one or more possible alternative arrangements of views in response to the rearrangement request and selecting one possible alternative arrangement for display and with each successive rearrangement the computer selecting for display one of another possible arrangement of views or the original arrangement of views. Because of this deficiency in Kandogan, the Office cited Kuromusha, which is related to a window display system and method for a computer system. In the Office Action, it is alleged that Kuromusha, column 3, lines 48 – 58, cures the deficiency found in Kandogan. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Kuromusha, column 3, lines 48 – 58, discloses the moving of a main window and the moving of a sub-window in accordance with the movement of the main window so that the sub-window may always keep a specified relative position in respect to the main window on the display. Applicants submit that, in Kuromusha, the determining of the movement of a main window and that of the associated sub-window is not "*determining one or more* ***possible alternative arrangements of views*** *in response to the rearrangement request*" to "***collectively*** *rearrange views on the computer screen,*" as claimed. In Kuromusha, the windows that move are only the sub-windows associated with the main window being moved. However, Kuromusha

does not disclose how other windows, not a sub-window of the main window, are rearranged with respect to the moving of the main window. Kuromusha, column 4, lines 57 – 63 and column 12, lines 61 – 65, strongly suggests that other windows belonging to another application are not moved regardless, as Kuromusha discloses ways to deal with sub-windows being covered by the other windows after the move. Therefore, the system disclosed in Kuromusha does not *"**collectively** rearrange views on the computer screen"*, as claimed. Furthermore, as disclosed in Kuromusha, column 4, lines 57 – 63 and column 12, lines 61 – 65, it is possible that a window of another application may overlap with a sub-window after the move. In view of the fact that Kuromusha discloses that some of the screens may overlap, such moves taught by Kuromusha cannot be ***possible alternative arrangements of views***, as required in claim 1, since the present invention relates to "*a method of rearranging **non-overlapping** views on a computer screen.*" The arrangements with overlapping views are excluded in the present invention, thus they are not possible alternatives. Therefore, Kuromusha fails to teach the above claimed features.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that there is no motivation or suggestion to combine the teaching of Kandogan and Kuromusha, because the possible overlapping of screens after the moving of windows on a computer screen as disclosed in Kuromusha teaches away from the "*rearranging **non-overlapping** views on a computer screen,*" as claimed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over Kandogan and Kuromusha, alone or in combination. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested. In dependent claims 8 and 9 contains similar claim language as in claim 1, and therefore should also be patentable over Kandogan and Kuromusha, alone or in combination. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 8 and 9 under U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested. Applicants submit that the other cited secondary references, alone or in combination, cannot bridge the feature gap between Kandogan and Kuromusha and claim 1 as discussed above. Therefore, claims 3 – 7 and 10 are also patentable as they depend from claims 1 and 9, with each claim including further distinguishing features. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 3 – 7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections. In view of the above remarks, it is believed that claims 1 and 3-10 are in condition for allowance. Passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper, not already paid through an EFS-Web filing, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-3894. Any overpayment may be credited to Deposit Account No. 50-3894.

Respectfully submitted,

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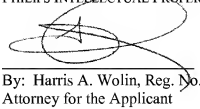

By: Harris A. Wolin, Reg. No. 39,432
Attorney for the Applicant

Please Address All Correspondence to:
Yan Glickberg, Registration No. 51,742
Phone: (440) 483-3455
CUSTOMER NUMBER 24737